

Supplemental Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
10/015,563

Atty. Docket Q67758

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (original): A racing game machine, comprising:

a racing track;

a traveling field, on which platen dots are provided, extending below the racing track; ;

a plurality of self-propelled members provided on the traveling field, each self-propelled member including:

a first yoke, which constitutes a first linear motor together with the platen dots for propelling the self-propelled member in a first direction on the traveling field;

a second yoke, which constitutes a second linear motor together with the platen dots for propelling the self-propelled member in a second direction which is perpendicular to the first direction; and

a first magnet provided in an upper portion of the self-propelled member; and

a plurality of miniature members, which are provided on the racing track to be raced with each other while being associated with the respective self-propelled members, each miniature member including:

front wheels and rear wheels provided on a bottom face thereof for supporting the miniature member on the racing track, the front wheels being provided as caster wheels; and

a second magnet provided in a front side of the caster wheels while being magnetically coupled with the first magnet.

Claim 2 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein ball bearings are provided on the bottom face of the self-propelled member to assist the propelling on the traveling field.

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Claim 3 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein each of the first yoke and the second yoke is formed with three legs provided with coils, to constitute three-phase linear motors.

Claim 4 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 3, wherein a lower end portion of each leg is split into plural projections each having an identical width with a width of each of the platen dots.

Claim 5 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 2, wherein the ball bearings are composed of at least three independent ball bearings.

Claims 6 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 2, wherein the ball bearings are supported within an annular retainer formed on the bottom face of the self-propelled member to constitute a thrust bearing.

Claims 7-9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein the second magnet is pivotable about a pivot center provided on the bottom face of the miniature member at a front side of the front wheels.

Claim 11 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein the miniature member includes a ball bearing provided on the bottom face thereof in the vicinity of the second magnet, for supporting the miniature member on the racing track.

Claim 12 (original): The game machine as set forth in claim 1, wherein the second magnet is rotatable about a rotation center provided on the bottom face of the miniature member at a front side of the front wheels.

Claim 13 (original): The gaming machine as set forth in claim 2, wherein:
the ball bearings are made of metal, and
a conductive layer is formed on the traveling field for supplying power to the linear motors of the self-propelled member via the ball bearings.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A racing game machine, comprising-
a racing track;

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a traveling field, on which platen dots are provided, extending below the racing track,
a plurality of self-propelled members provided on the traveling field, each self-propelled
member including:

a first yoke, which constitutes a first linear motor together with the platen dots for
propelling the self-propelled member in a first direction on the traveling field;

a second yoke, which constitutes a second linear motor together with the platen dots for
propelling the self-propelled member in a second direction which is perpendicular to the first
direction; and

a first magnet provided in an upper portion of the self-propelled member; and

a plurality of miniature members, which are provided on the racing track to be raced with
each other while being associated with the respective self-propelled members, each miniature
member including:

front wheels and rear wheels provided on a bottom face thereof for supporting the
miniature member on the racing track, the front wheels being provided as caster wheels; and

a second magnet magnetically coupled with the first magnet.